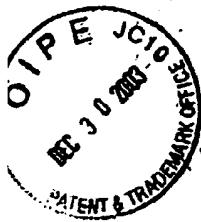


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December 30, 2003

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Art Unit 1647

Re: U.S. Utility Continuation Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/877,244; Filed: June 11, 2001  
For: Use of Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF)  
Inventors: STADDON *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0623.1090001/LBB/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$950.00 to cover the appropriate fees;
2. PTO Fee Transmittal (PTO/SB/17);
3. Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
4. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
5. One (1) return postcard.

M  
S

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
December 30, 2003  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency,  
or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Brian J. Del Buono  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 42,473

LBB/BJD/nef  
Enclosures

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SKGF Rev. 2/15/02 dcw; 4/18/03 svb



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

STADDON *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/877,244

Filed: June 11, 2001

For: **Use of Vascular Endothelial  
Growth Factor (VEGF)**

Confirmation No. 9543

Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: Landsman, R.S.

Atty. Docket: 0623.1090001/LBB/BJD

**Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the non-final Office Action dated June 30, 2003 (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 10), Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, this Amendment is provided in the following format:

(A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;

(B) Starting on a separate sheet, a listing of amendments to the specification;

(C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all the claims:

- in ascending order;
- with status identifiers; and
- with markings in the currently amended claims; and

(D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this

application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a),  
and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized  
to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.